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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Administration

NO. 43

"AMA "WAR BOARD" Letter Wash. D. C.

NOV. 21, 1942

HOGS: Preparing for all possible relief from expected heavy marketings of hogs this fall and winter, AMA is setting up an Interior Marketing Committee at Des Moines, Ia., to keep abreast of situation as it develops. Meanwhile, letter is being prepared on hog marketing permit plan to be sent early next week to interior packers and concentration yards. It will be similar to the letter already sent terminal market committees, which have been established. The Interior Marketing Committee will be composed of producers, packers and USDA representatives. Its main activities will be to act as coordinating unit for small sub-committees set up through interior area, to supervise the program for orderly marketing in interior Iowa and southern Minnesota, to help establish local marketing committees and to authorize the permit program in the area if and when it becomes necessary to take such action to prevent serious market gluts. As Secretary Wickard stressed in Farm and Home Hour broadcast, Nov. 20, it is still hoped that permit system won't be necessary, but hogs have been so slow coming to market so far that it may be forced into effect. Other highlights of Secretary's speech were emphasis on necessity of increased hog production next year and recommendation that sows be bred earlier than usual so that the 1943 spring pig crop will be started early. Latter would prevent bare spots in marketing like that just past this fall and would level off great peaks in marketing next year... "but, the most important thing of all is to raise more hogs next year."

FOOD GOALS: As you probably know by now, dates for regional 1943 food goal meetings have been announced. AMA Administrator Hendrickson, Dr. Frederick V. Waugh, intend to be present at all meetings if possible. In addition, the following AMA officials from here will be at the different regional goal meetings: At Denver, W.G. Meal, chief, Fruit & Vegetable Branch; at Chicago, T.G. Stitts, chief, Dairy & Poultry Branch; at Memphis, Harry Reed, chief, Livestock Branch; and at New York, both Mr. Stitts and C.W. Kitchen, Associate Administrator.

FIELD PURCHASE PROGRAMS: The following purchases were made during the past week, November 13-19: Cabbage, New York, 114 tons, U.S. No. 1 grade at \$15 per ton; Squash, Massachusetts, 29 tons, New Hampshire, 40 tons, Vermont, 94 tons, all AMA grade, at \$12 per ton; Sweetpotatoes, Delaware, 1142 bu. at \$.80 per bu. and 123 bu. at \$.90 per bu.; Maryland, 6000 bu. at \$.90 per bu. and 400 bbls at \$2.40 per bbl.; Virginia, 28200 bu at \$.90 per bu. and 8140 bbls at \$2.40 per bbl.

Apples: Total purchases to date (through November 19) 2,138,167 bu. Purchases made last week as follows: Connecticut, 14962 bu., Maine, 7432 bu., Maryland, 2064 bu., Massachusetts, 38072 bu., Michigan, 4200 bu., New Hampshire, 8491 bu., New Jersey, 2112 bu., New York, 1050 bu., Ohio, 35400 bu., Pennsylvania, 9121 bu., Utah, 6600 bu., Virginia, 504 bu., Vermont, 1263 bu., West Virginia, 2721 bu. Apples will be purchased in Oregon during coming week.

Only other purchase program during past week covered 32 crates of pineapple in Puerto Rico at \$1.75 per crate, US No. 2 grade.

OREGON EGG STORY: In case you did not see follow-up newspaper stories on tragedy in Oregon (where a large number of inmates of a state hospital for the insane died after a meal including frozen eggs furnished by AMA) there has been complete clearing of AMA eggs of any responsibility. Because of incomplete reports of tragedy, AMA immediately issued order stopping all further relief

distribution of frozen eggs. This order was rescinded yesterday when complete investigation by Oregon state authorities revealed that powerful insect poison - not frozen eggs - was cause of tragedy.

CONSUMER MARKET REPORTS: Beginning first of December, AIA will take over the consumer market press service formerly provided by Office of Price Administration. Market News Division of Fruit & Vegetable Branch is notifying each of its offices to this effect. Arrangements already have been made to start new service in several cities. This will be in addition to that furnished by AIA "Federal Food Reporter" over radio station from cities where we have F & V market news. At most points reports will be handled by Fruit & Vegetable Market News reporters.